

HB 6709

Members of Public Health Committee

The sudden, shocking news that you or a loved one has contracted a terminal disease is devastating. Life has suddenly been given an end date, perhaps in only a few months, or if one is “lucky” perhaps a year away. If it were you, your spouse, or your child, you would want to take advantage of any hope, any opportunity to take what could be a life-saving drug that could save you or your loved one. But unless legislation is passed, you will die, because current law prevents you from taking those potentially life-saving drugs. Can anything be more horrible? Please support SB 60 and HB 6709 (formally HB 6292), bills that will allow drug companies to give terminally ill patients medicines that have passed FDA approved Phase I trial. Faced with the knowledge that the curtain will soon fall on life, the terminally ill want to participate in treatments that may extend their lives, or at least forward research that will someday cure terrible diseases. I ask you to support and vote to pass these bills:

Senate Bill 60 "**AN ACT CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF INVESTIGATIONAL DRUGS AND OTHER TREATMENT OPTIONS TO TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS**" and House Bill 6709 "**AN ACT CONCERNING THE "RIGHT TO TRY" INVESTIGATIONAL TREATMENTS AND DRUGS**" have both been referred to the Public Health Committee. These two bills will allow patients suffering from an un-treatable, terminal disease, such as ALS, to try any drug or treatment that has passed an FDA approved Phase 1 trial.

Thank you,
H. Jean Smith
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